United Nations A/56/1004–S/2002/752

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
12 July 2002
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 42
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 11 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that at 0130 hours on the night of 3/4 July 2002 an Israeli patrol halted at the eastern gate of the Metullah settlement opposite Al-Qa'im mosque in Kafr Killa. Soldiers alighted from HMMWV ("Hummer") vehicles, opened the gate and went through the technical fence into Lebanese territory. Six of them stood in front of the gate and another went and stood on a concrete cuboid structure some seven metres from the technical fence. Three minutes later, a patrol from the Indian contingent [of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)] arrived from the direction of the Khiyam lowland and stopped near the Israeli soldiers at the cuboid structure. It then left only to return ten minutes later reinforced by another unit. They stood in front of the Israeli soldiers blocking their way after elements of the resistance had been placed on alert opposite the gate.

After inspecting the site, Lieutenant Colonel René de Coin, chief of the international liaison unit, concluded that the incident had not been a violation but that Lebanon had clearly been provoked by the Israelis when their soldiers had come through the gate without informing UNIFIL of their intention to do so. He stated that they could be held responsible for creating an explosive situation, and he warned against any repetition of what had happened.

The Lebanese Government is of the view that the entry of the Israeli soldiers by way of the gate opposite point 136 west of Metullah on the pretext of mending the fence there constitutes a serious Israeli provocation, especially since UNIFIL was not informed in advance and given the late hour at which they managed to contrive to have the incident take place. This happened in a delicate situation of heightened alert in the area and could have provoked a reaction from citizens and resistance elements. Any future recurrence could have serious consequences.

In the light of the foregoing, Lebanon wishes to lodge with you a protest against these planned and contrived Israeli provocations at this sensitive juncture,

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especially since they coincide with the Israeli political incitement and scare-mongering against Lebanon in the media.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Houssam Asaad Diab**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

United Nations A/56/1005

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 July 2002

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 60
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Note by the President of the General Assembly

1. On 8 July 2002, as a result of the open-ended informal consultations of the plenary on revitalization of the General Assembly conducted during my Presidency, the General Assembly adopted a landmark resolution, resolution 56/509, whereby it decided that the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Main Committees would be elected at least three months before the opening of a regular session. The Assembly also decided that, for the fifty-seventh session only, the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Main Committees would be elected as early as possible.

2. Pursuant to resolution 56/509, the General Assembly elected the President of the General Assembly for the fifty-seventh session on 8 July 2002 and the Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Main Committees for the fifty-seventh session on 17 July 2002.

3. This change will have far-reaching implications for the work, not only of the General Assembly, but of the entire United Nations system. It does not merely represent a procedural modification, but constitutes a major step towards strengthening the General Assembly by enabling smooth transitions between the successive Presidencies and thus encouraging the President and other officers to play their role in a much more efficient manner.

4. The annex to my note presents principal elements that have been discussed at the meetings of the open-ended informal consultations of the plenary on revitalization of the General Assembly during the period from May to June 2002. I hope that this evolving document, which is a contribution to the continuous revitalization process, will be enriched by new ideas and proposals in parallel with the implementation of the agreed reform measures.

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Annex

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

I. Context

1. Many Member States consider that the work of revitalizing the General Assembly that led, inter alia, to the adoption of resolution 55/285 under the presidency of Mr. Harri Holkeri should be continued.

2. The work of the General Assembly and the committees should be better organized so as to permit the Assembly to concentrate entirely on its core tasks, which are:

(a) To debate and take action in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations on international political, economic, social and legal questions and to consider and debate on reports from the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General and the Security Council;

(b) To negotiate and approve international conventions;

(c) To discuss and adopt the budget.

II. Suggested reform measures

3. The following suggested measures constitute part of an ongoing process aimed at the revitalization of the General Assembly.

A. Role of the President of the General Assembly

4. The President of the General Assembly should meet regularly with, in particular, the Chairmen of each of the Main Committees, representatives of major groups and/or chairpersons of regional groups (on questions involving procedure) and with a representative of the Secretary-General so that conferences, regular and special sessions of the General Assembly and summit follow-ups can be better planned.

5. The President of the General Assembly should also meet regularly with the Presidents of the Security Council and of the Economic and Social Council and with the Secretary-General to discuss and/or share ideas on questions regarding the continuous revitalization process of the work of the Organization.

6. The President should endeavour to be in New York on a more or less permanent basis during the session. The President should establish informal relations with his/her prospective successor to ensure a smooth transition from one session to another and also develop a comprehensive approach of handing over his/her responsibilities, including suggestions for further improvement in the work of the General Assembly. To facilitate this, the President of each session of the General Assembly, as well as the Chairman of each of the Main Committees and the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly, should be elected at least three months

before the opening of that session.[a] They should meet before the opening of the next session to discuss organizational matters.

7. The Secretariat should prepare the necessary documentation and all relevant information for the incoming President so that he/she will be fully prepared to assume his/her new functions. Adequate support in the form, for example, of one or two United Nations professionals from existing staff should be available to the Office of the President. These professionals need to be assigned to the Office of the President for an extended period of, at least, three years initially.

8. The President could give clearly identified responsibilities to Vice-Presidents.

B. Role of the General Committee

9. The President could convene the General Committee on a regular basis and have informal meetings in order to propose the necessary modifications to the agenda. Member States represented on the General Committee should designate focal points to enhance the efficiency of the General Committee.

10. The outgoing General Committee should be in close contact with the prospective members of the incoming General Committee so as to work informally on the agenda of the next session.

C. Organization of the debates

11. In organizing the debates, the main goal must be to allow time for discussions on important issues and recent developments in international relations.

12. Efforts should be continued to reduce and group items by subject on the agenda and/or by taking them up on a biennial or triennial basis.

13. On periodic items, efforts could be made to eliminate most routine speeches (representatives could simply inform the Secretariat that their position is consistent with that of past years).

14. For debates on "urgent" items of concern to most Members, speeches delivered during the session should take into consideration, insofar as possible, responses and comments on proposals made by other speakers during their presentations.

15. To promote interactive debates, when speakers (representatives of major groups or of their own country) have delivered their major statements, Member States could voice their opinion to add to his/her speech, or to comment on presentations made by other groups or countries, in order to contribute, whenever appropriate, to a more interactive debate. The latter short additional statements could be delivered in the plenary from the seat of the delegation concerned.

16. In addition, whenever the President of the General Assembly feels it to be appropriate, he/she could organize informal meetings or round tables to study thoroughly matters of topical interest.

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[a] To this effect, rules 30, 31 and 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly have been amended (resolution 56/509 of 8 July 2002).

D. Guidelines on the conduct of work

17. The President of the General Assembly and the Chairmen of the Main Committees are encouraged to use the rules of procedure in a comprehensive manner to promote the effective and constructive conduct of all aspects of the work of the General Assembly.

18. At the beginning of each session, the President of the General Assembly, as well as the Chairmen of each of the Main Committees, should remind the Members of these rules of procedure and encourage the Members to cooperate fully in achieving the goals of the Committees.

E. Reports and role of the Secretariat

19. Reports should be concise, operational and analytical. With the exception of financial reports, the General Assembly should always set a limit to the number of pages requested for each report within the framework of the 16-page rule set, inter alia, by its resolution A/53/208. Reports should conclude with recommendations for action to be taken by the General Assembly in order to facilitate the eventual drafting of Assembly resolutions/declarations. The Assembly should avoid asking for too many reports from the Secretariat (avoid duplications). In many cases, the Assembly could request oral reports instead of written reports. A list of the requested reports could be established, with a view to rationalizing how the reports are prepared.

20. During the three months before the beginning of the session, the President of the General Assembly should review the list of the reports requested by the General Assembly for its next session with the incoming President and the Secretary-General, with a view to ensuring that they will be made available for the Member States in time.

21. The President of the General Assembly should encourage the Secretariat to propose improvements that could facilitate the work of the General Assembly in accordance with rule 47 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

F. Budgetary procedure

22. Permanent Representatives are encouraged to be more involved in the budgetary process. Work on the budget could be better planned. The Committee for Programme and Coordination and the medium-term plan should be better organized to produce a strategic approach.

G. Modern technologies

23. The General Assembly should be encouraged to make increased use of modern technology, including for the counting of votes during elections or the drawing of lots.

24. Contributions from delegations on national experience in modernizing the counting of votes, particularly in parliaments, would be welcome.

25. In the meantime, Member States and the Secretariat should increase the number of assessors.

Appendix

"Rule 35

"In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each plenary meeting of the session, direct the discussions in plenary meeting, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions and announce decisions. He shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings at any meeting and over the maintenance of order thereat. The President may, in the course of the discussion of an item, propose to the General Assembly the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers, the limitation of the number of times each representative may speak, the closure of the list of speakers or the closure of the debate. He may also propose the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting or the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion."

"Rule 68

"No representative may address the General Assembly without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion."

"Rule 72

"The General Assembly may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker and the number of times each representative may speak on any question. Before a decision is taken, two representatives may speak in favour of, and two against, a proposal to set such limits. When the debate is limited and a representative exceeds his allotted time, the President shall call him to order without delay."

"Rule 73

"During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the General Assembly, declare the list closed. He may, however, accord the right of reply to any member if a speech delivered after he has declared the list closed makes this desirable."

"Rule 109

"No representative may address the committee without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairman. The Chairman shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Chairman may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion."

"Rule 113

"During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order, and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the Chairman in accordance with the rules of procedure. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the Chairman. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the Chairman's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting. A representative rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion."

"Rule 114

"The committee may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker and the number of times each representative may speak on any question. Before a decision is taken, two representatives may speak in favour of, and two against, a proposal to set such limits. When the debate is limited and a representative exceeds his allotted time, the Chairman shall call him to order without delay."

• • •

After recalling the rules of procedure above, the President of the General Assembly and each of the Chairmen of the Main Committees should also remind delegations, at the beginning of each session, of the following guidelines to facilitate courteous and respectful debate:

- The need for a stricter adherence to punctuality and for limiting the duration of speeches in all General Assembly meetings, including informal meetings.
- The intention of the Chairman of a Main Committee to invite a Permanent Representative, in the event of protracted delay in action on proposals by a member of the delegation concerned, to personally present his/her point of view.
- The Fifth and the Sixth Committees have established their own procedures for reaching decisions. Consensus must be encouraged by the Chairmen of the four other Main Committees. However, consensus does not mean unanimity. In the event of disagreement, a decision needs to be sought by means of a vote in accordance with the rules of procedure.

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General Assembly
Security Council

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17 July 2002

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 17 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to the latest incident in the ongoing Palestinian campaign of terrorism directed against the citizens of Israel.

Shortly after 3 p.m. (local time) today, Palestinian terrorists detonated a roadside bomb as an Israeli passenger bus was passing by on its way to the community of Emanuel. After immobilizing the bus, the terrorists, who had been hiding by the side of the road and were wearing Israeli army uniforms, sprayed the bus with gunfire and hurled anti-tank grenades through its windows as passengers trapped inside scrambled for cover. Eight Israelis were killed in the attack and 16 were wounded, half of them seriously. Among the dead was Tiferet Sarah Shilon, a 9-month-old baby girl, killed along with her 67-year-old grandmother, and her 35-year-old father. Also killed was a baby who had been delivered by emergency Caesarean section after her mother, in the late stages of pregnancy, was injured in the attack.

At least four Palestinian terrorist organizations claimed responsibility for the attack: Hamas; the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Islamic Jihad; and the Al Aksa Martyrs Brigades, the terrorist wing of Chairman Arafat's own Fatah faction. It is believed that the attack was carried out by the same Hamas cell that carried out a similar attack in the same spot on 12 December 2001, an attack that was referred to in a letter dated 13 December 2001 (A/56/706-S/2001/1198).

Israel holds the Palestinian Authority and its Chairman, Yasser Arafat, responsible for this latest act of terrorism. Such attacks are the inevitable result of the constant incitement to violence in the official Palestinian media, the demonization of Jews and Israelis in Palestinian schools and the financial and logistical support provided to known terrorists by Palestinian Authority officials.

Yesterday's attack confirms the continuing need for Israeli defensive measures in the face of unrelenting threats of Palestinian terrorism. Although it is impossible to thwart every attempted action, countless terror attacks have been prevented in recent weeks by the ongoing efforts of Israeli forces. So long as the Palestinian Authority refuses to fulfil its responsibility to fight terrorism, in accordance with its

02-48396 (E) 170702

signed obligations and the resolutions of the Security Council, Israel will be left with no choice but to take the actions it deems necessary in exercise of its right to self-defense.

I submit this letter in follow-up to my numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism that began in September 2000.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/56/1007–S/2002/781

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
18 July 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 62
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 17 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 17 July 2002 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ümit **Pamir**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-48567 (E) 190702

Annex to the letter dated 17 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 23 May 2002 (A/56/962-S/2002/577) addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, which contains allegations of "violations of the airspace of the Republic" and "of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia".

It will be recalled that similar allegations of so-called "airspace and FIR violations" were refuted in our previous communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 16 May 2002 (A/56/954-S/2002/563). I wish to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or any right of say whatsoever. Furthermore, it should be underlined that the allegations of so-called violations of the flight information region or violations of air-traffic regulations are void and groundless under international law. Every precaution is being taken for the safety of navigation of civil air traffic during the activities of Turkish State aircraft within international airspace, within which the civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the only competent authority to provide air-traffic and aeronautical information services.

As stated in my previous letters, such allegations are based on the false and illegitimate claim that the sovereignty of the Greek Cypriot administration extends over the whole island, including the territory of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This claim by the Greek Cypriot side is divorced from the existing realities in Cyprus, namely, the existence of two independent States, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within their respective territories on the island.

I would like to state that at a time when direct talks between the two sides are continuing in Cyprus, this kind of politically motivated propaganda and unfounded allegations do not enhance prospects of achieving progress through the current phase of the talks. At this sensitive phase, it is all the more crucial that the Greek Cypriot administration adopt a realistic and constructive stance which would put them on the path of reconciliation. We hope that the international community will, in the period ahead, encourage the Greek Cypriot side in this direction.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aytuğ **Plümer**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

United Nations A/56/1008–S/2002/800

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
19 July 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 19 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Barely 24 hours after 8 Israelis were killed by Palestinian terrorists aboard a passenger bus near Emmanuel, 2 suicide bombers struck in the heart of Tel Aviv, killing 3 and injuring 40, 5 of them seriously.

The attack occurred on Wednesday evening, at approximately 10.20 p.m. (local time), in the southern Tel Aviv neighbourhood of Neve Sha'anan, an area known to be crowded with shops and outdoor food stalls. Standing about 15 metres apart, the two suicide bombers detonated their charges almost simultaneously, sending pedestrians in the area scrambling for cover. Two of those killed in the attack were foreign nationals, one from Romania and the other from China. The attack occurred on the evening of Tish'a B'av, when Jews around the world gather to commemorate and mourn the destruction of the two ancient Jewish temples in Jerusalem. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack.

Israel holds the Palestinian Authority and its Chairman, Yasser Arafat, responsible for the ongoing campaign of terrorism directed against the citizens of Israel. The Palestinian Authority has used every tool of its leadership to cultivate an atmosphere conducive to the perpetration of acts of terrorism, including the incitement to violence in the official media, the hatred of Jews and Israelis taught in Palestinian schools, and the financial and logistic support it provides to known terrorists.

The continuation of Palestinian attacks underscores the need for defensive measures to protect Israeli citizens from this threat. Although it is impossible to thwart every attempted action, countless terror attacks have been prevented in recent weeks by the ongoing efforts of Israeli forces. So long as the Palestinian Authority refuses to fulfil its responsibility to fight terrorism, in accordance with its signed obligations and the resolutions of the Security Council, Israel will be left with no choice but to take the actions it deems necessary in exercise of its right to self-defence.

Israel calls upon the Palestinian Authority to take the steps required for a cessation of acts of terrorism and the resumption of a political process. Only once

02-48713 (E) 220702

the Palestinian Authority takes action to prevent terrorist attacks directed against Israeli civilians can there by any hope of arriving at a comprehensive peace settlement capable of addressing the legitimate needs and aspirations of both sides.

I submit the present letter in follow-up to my numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism that began in September 2000.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda Lancry
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/56/1009–S/2002/881

General Assembly
Security Council

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19 July 2002
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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 19
Admission of new Members to the United Nations

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Application of the Swiss Confederation for admission to membership in the United Nations

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 135 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate herewith the application of the Swiss Confederation for admission to membership in the United Nations, contained in a letter dated 20 June 2002 from the President of the Swiss Confederation and the Chancellor of the Confederation on behalf of the Swiss Federal Council addressed to the Secretary-General (see annex).

02-48722 (E) 190702 190702

Annex

[Original: French]

Letter dated 2[illegible] June 2002 from the President and the Chancellor of the Swiss Confederation on behalf of the Swiss Federal Council addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to submit the request of the Swiss Confederation for admission to the United Nations. By a vote on 3 March 2002, the people and the cantons of Switzerland authorized the Federal Council to make this request. We should be grateful if you would submit it to the Security Council and to the General Assembly.

Pursuant to the Federal Constitution, the duty of the Swiss Confederation is to protect the liberty and the rights of the people, to ensure the independence and security of the country and to promote a just and peaceful international order. The Federal Parliament and the Federal Council are responsible for taking the necessary measures to safeguard the neutrality of the country. Switzerland is a neutral State whose status is enshrined in international law. The United Nations recognizes that the neutrality of a Member State does not affect the fulfilment of its obligations under the Charter and contributes to the achievement of the purposes of the United Nations.

As a Member of the United Nations, Switzerland will remain neutral.

On the basis of the above, we have the honour to declare on behalf of the Swiss Confederation that the Confederation accepts the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations and is prepared to carry them out.

(*Signed*) Kaspar **Villiger**
President of the Swiss Confederation

(*Signed*) Annemarie **Huber-Hotz**
Chancellor of the Swiss Confederation

United Nations A/56/1009-S/2002/801*

General Assembly
Security Council

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24 July 2002

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 19
Admission of new Members to the United Nations

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Application of the Swiss Confederation for admission to membership in the United Nations

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 135 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate herewith the application of the Swiss Confederation for admission to membership in the United Nations, contained in a letter dated 20 June 2002 from the President of the Swiss Confederation and the Chancellor of the Confederation on behalf of the Swiss Federal Council addressed to the Secretary-General (see annex).

* Previously issued in error under the symbol A/56/1009-S/2002/881.

02-48722* (E) 240702

Annex

[Original: French]

Letter dated 20 June 2002 from the President and the Chancellor of the Swiss Confederation on behalf of the Swiss Federal Council addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to submit the request of the Swiss Confederation for admission to the United Nations. By a vote on 3 March 2002, the people and the cantons of Switzerland authorized the Federal Council to make this request. We should be grateful if you would submit it to the Security Council and to the General Assembly.

Pursuant to the Federal Constitution, the duty of the Swiss Confederation is to protect the liberty and the rights of the people, to ensure the independence and security of the country and to promote a just and peaceful international order. The Federal Parliament and the Federal Council are responsible for taking the necessary measures to safeguard the neutrality of the country. Switzerland is a neutral State whose status is enshrined in international law. The United Nations recognizes that the neutrality of a Member State does not affect the fulfilment of its obligations under the Charter and contributes to the achievement of the purposes of the United Nations.

As a Member of the United Nations, Switzerland will remain neutral.

On the basis of the above, we have the honour to declare on behalf of the Swiss Confederation that the Confederation accepts the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations and is prepared to carry them out.

(*Signed*) Kaspar **Villiger**
President of the Swiss Confederation

(*Signed*) Annemarie **Huber-Hotz**
Chancellor of the Swiss Confederation

United Nations A/56/1010–S/2002/805

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 62
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 19 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 19 July 2002, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ümit **Pamir**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-49040 (E) 240702

Annex to the letter dated 19 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 12 June 2002 (A/56/984-S/2002/670) addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative to the United Nations and to bring to your kind attention the following.

The Greek Cypriot representative has repeated the unfounded allegation, recently voiced by Greek Cypriot authorities in the south, that the number of Turkish troops in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus has been increased by the arrival of an additional 5,500 soldiers.

First and foremost, I would like to emphasize that this allegation by the Greek Cypriot side is totally baseless and misleading. In view of the false reports appearing in the Greek Cypriot press, our Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Defence issued a statement on 17 June 2002 refuting these allegations and informing the public of the facts. The fact is that soldiers who have completed their military service in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus have been replaced periodically in accordance with the system of enlistment of the Turkish Armed Forces. Obviously, an attempt is being made by the Greek Cypriot side to deliberately present this routine procedure as a reinforcement of the Turkish forces on the island, with a view to portraying the Republic of Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in the international arena as the party creating tension.

We are confident that the community of nations will not be misled by this baseless propaganda act by the Greek Cypriot side. We are also certain that the attention of the world community will not be diverted from the ongoing massive militarization campaign by the Greek Cypriot side, which is the real provocation and a threat to security on the island and in the region.

Following the recent acquisition of Russian-made assault helicopters and other weapons, the Greek Cypriot Minister of Defence, Mr. Hasikos, travelled to Athens to review military preparations with the Greek Minister of Defence, Mr. Papandoniou. The Greek Cypriot daily *Filelefitheros* of 18 June 2002 reported that the two officials reviewed the latest phase of the Cyprus issue and held substantial talks on the implementation of the Joint Military Doctrine of Greece and the Greek Cypriot Administration. Mr. Papandoniou was quoted as saying "We took up with Mr. Hasikos a series of issues relating to the implementation of the Joint Military Doctrine. I believe that we are at a very good point because close cooperation exists between the armed forces of the two countries." For his part, Mr. Hasikos also confirmed that the Joint Military Doctrine was fully functional.

It is clear that the Greek Cypriot Administration has no intention of abandoning its hostile and provocative stance against the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and Turkey. Under the circumstances, it is hard to imagine that the good will and constructive approach being displayed by the Turkish Cypriot side at the current talks between the two parties will be reciprocated by the Greek Cypriot side. Therefore, we would like to call upon the international community to prod the Greek Cypriot leadership into adapting a fresh approach that would be conducive to reconciliation rather than fomenting hostility and tension in the island.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aytuğ **Plümer**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

A/56/1011

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United Nations A/56/1011–S/2002/806

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 42
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 22 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter addressed to you by Mahmoud Hammoud, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigrants of the Republic of Lebanon, concerning your report on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for the period from 17 January to 12 July 2002 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the enclosed letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Houssam Asaad **Diab**

02-48951 (E) 230702

Annex to the letter dated 22 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

I have read with extreme interest your report on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) covering the period from 17 January to 12 July 2002. While commending your sustained efforts to maintain stability and security in the region, I am pleased to also commend the work carried out by the officers and staff of UNIFIL in effectively monitoring the situation in the region, a task that plays an important role in keeping the calm in the area from which Israel withdrew in May 2000. The Government of Lebanon is keen to preserve the calm in that area. I am pleased by the fact that you appreciate the work done by the Government of Lebanon in maintaining the calm in that area and would like to reiterate our determination to keep on doing so.

While I commend all the positive points included in your report, I would like to assure you that Lebanon has been and is scrupulously committed to the resolutions of the Security Council and international legitimacy. As for the issue of the Shebaa Farms and the three points on the Blue Line, your position is very well known to us, as our position is known to you. Besides that and with reference to paragraph 28 of your report, Lebanon is a founding member of the United Nations and is committed to its legitimacy. Lebanon is not only willing to fulfil its obligations but is also one of the first States calling for the full implementation of its resolutions. In this context, Lebanon calls on Israel to respect those resolutions and to put an end to its continuous provocation of Lebanon by its violation of Lebanese sovereignty by air and sea.

Lebanon would like to assure you that it is providing full freedom of movement to UNIFIL throughout its entire region of operations and is very keen to preserve it. Lebanon will keep on maintaining the same position.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud **Hammoud**
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigrants

United Nations A/56/1012–S/2002/829

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Security Council

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24 July 2002
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 42 and 166

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 23 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Since October 2000, Israel has persisted, in successive letters addressed to you by its Permanent Representative, in slandering Lebanon. In its most recent letter Israel alleges that there are elements of al-Qa`idah in Lebanon and that the Lebanese Hizb Allah is engaging in acts of terrorism. The latest mendacious allegation is contained in the letter dated 8 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel addressed to you and issued as document A/56/1001-S/2002/743 to which Lebanon wishes to respond as follows:

1. The allegations by Israel that Hizb Allah has shelled civilian locations are entirely untrue; in its resistance to the continuing Israeli occupation of the Shab`a farmlands, Hizb Allah targets only the Israeli military occupying Lebanese territory. If Hizb Allah has launched anti-aircraft missiles, it has done so only against Israeli military aircraft that were violating Lebanese airspace as part of Israel's ongoing provocation of Lebanon. It is that that threatens peace and security in the region.

2. Lebanon is complying fully with the relevant United Nations resolutions and is fully cooperating with the Security Council in the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism. Lebanon was fighting terrorism in its territory prior to 11 September 2001 when the Lebanese army came into conflict with local forces listed as being engaged in international terrorism and was able to eliminate them. Since 11 September 2001 Lebanon has been cooperating closely with the United Nations and with the international community to combat any terrorist presence or activity in its territory. The undeclared purpose of Israel's allegations to the effect that Lebanon is harbouring elements of al-Qa`idah is to slander Lebanon, threaten its security and stability and distract attention from Israel's continuing occupation of part of Lebanese territory, namely the Shab`a farmlands, as well as to justify its violent and unrelenting aggression against the Palestinian people. Lebanon, which has itself suffered from acts of terrorism, has consistently stated its clear opposition to such acts and the President and Prime

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Minister of the Lebanese Republic were among the first to condemn the terrorist action against New York on 11 September 2001.

3. Lebanon has always insisted on the obligation of all to implement the relevant United Nations resolutions, whether adopted by the Security Council or by the General Assembly, because it has a direct and definite interest in the implementation of those resolutions, whereas Israel, for a period of over 22 years, has refused to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and still refuses to abide by the relevant United Nations resolutions by continuing to occupy the Shab`a farmlands, just as it refuses to implement General Assembly resolution 194 (III).

4. By its mendacious calumnies against Lebanon, Israel is attempting to cover up the provocative acts of aggression that it commits against Lebanon such as its repeated violations of Lebanese airspace and territorial waters. Lebanon has persistently drawn attention to this in the many letters it has addressed to you calling on the Security Council and the international community to assume their responsibilities and to request Israel to desist from its provocations against Lebanon and to comply with the relevant international resolutions and implement them fully.

5. The area between Naqoura and the Shab`a farmlands has been entirely peaceful since 25 May 2000 and the Lebanese Government is working to ensure that it remains peaceful; the Internal Security Forces and the Police are carrying out their duties very effectively. The isolated act last April was carried out by an armed group that was not Lebanese and was the result of an emotional reaction by the population to the excessively violent Israeli attacks against the Palestinian people. In any event, the Lebanese authorities dealt with that isolated incident at the time, thus ensuring continued tranquillity and stability in the area which was disturbed only by the above-mentioned ongoing provocations by Israel in the form of violations of Lebanese airspace and territorial waters and the opening, by elements of the Israeli armed forces, of the crossing point in the Kafr Killa area and their entry into Lebanese territory from which they withdrew only after the arrival of elements of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

6. The continuing Israeli occupation of the Shab`a farmlands and of the Syrian Golan Heights and its reoccupation of numerous towns and areas of the Palestinian Authority are a cause of instability and a threat to peace and security in the region. Furthermore, Israel's disregard of the principles of the Madrid Conference, in particular the principle of land for peace, and its refusal to implement the relevant resolutions of the United Nations are bringing the Middle East region as a whole back to square one, in other words to a time prior to the convening of the Madrid Conference which began under the auspices of the United States of America and the Soviet Union with a view to completely ending the conflict in the Middle East and ushering in a just and comprehensive peace based on the implementation of the relevant international resolutions which Israel has persisted in ignoring and refusing to implement.

7. Israel endeavours to present itself as being a participant in the campaign to combat terrorism, whereas in fact, since 1948, it has been conducting terrorist operations against the Palestinian people and against civilians in the territories it has occupied. It has become clear that these actions are war crimes which make its officials liable to be indicted by the International Criminal Court.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 42 and 166 of its agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Houssam Asaad **Diab**
Chargé d'affaires

United Nations A/56/1013

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 47
The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti

Letter dated 24 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on Haiti issued on 19 July 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 47.

(*Signed*) Ellen Margrethe **Løj**
Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 24 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement on Haiti issued on 19 July 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the detailed and comprehensive report of the Commission of Inquiry into the events of 17 December 2001 in Haiti and encourages both the Government of Haiti and the opposition to accept and implement the recommendations of the report and engage in confidence-building measures to reach a political agreement that will give new impetus to a democratic process in the country.

The European Union reiterates its full support for the efforts of the Organization of American States to bring about durable political solutions to the existing difficulties in Haiti, ensuring a strengthening of democracy and the rule of law to the benefit of the population of Haiti. The European Union also welcomes and supports the work of the OAS/CARICOM mission in Haiti.

The European Union recalls the decision of the Council of 22 January 2002 to suspend partially its financial aid and to allow for a gradual reactivation of all its development cooperation instruments only once the Haitian parties concerned have reached a basic political agreement and taken the necessary steps in line with a substantive implementation of that agreement. The European Union will continue to closely monitor relevant developments in Haiti.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the EFTA countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 26 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing to draw your attention to the latest incidents in the ongoing campaign of Palestinian terrorism directed against the citizens of Israel.

Yesterday morning, at approximately 4 a.m. (local time), Elimelech Shapira, a rabbi and father of eight children, was driving near the community of Alei Zahav when Palestinian terrorists, who had been lying in ambush, opened fired on his vehicle with Kalashnikov rifles. Shapira was critically wounded and later died of his injuries; his companion who was riding in the passenger seat was injured and evacuated to a nearby hospital. The Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, the terrorist wing of Chairman Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for the attack.

This afternoon, four Israelis, including a child, were killed in two shooting attacks south of Hebron. According to reports, the gunmen opened fire at an Israeli vehicle as it approached the Zif Junction. Three Israelis were killed and another passenger was injured. The gunmen then continued on their way until they reached the community of Carmel where they fired on another vehicle, killing one and wounding two others. Three of those killed this afternoon were from the same family. The Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades claimed responsibility for this attack as well.

Palestinian terrorists have also increased their rocket attacks on Israeli communities. Late Wednesday night, two Kassam rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip at two different Israeli positions. One child was treated for shock and a building was damaged. The following day another Kassam rocket was fired from the Gaza Strip at a town in the western Negev. No injuries were reported but some damage was caused.

Israel holds the Palestinian Authority and its Chairman responsible for these latest attacks. Such attacks are only possible through the financial and logistical support that the Palestinian leadership has supplied to terrorist groups and are the product of years of incitement to violence and terrorism in the official media, the demonization of Jews and Israelis in the Palestinian educational system, and the glorification of suicide bombers that pervades Palestinian society.

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Yesterday's attack confirms the continuing need for Israeli defensive measures in the face of unrelenting threats of Palestinian terrorism. So long as the Palestinian Authority refuses to fulfil its responsibility to fight terrorism, in accordance with its signed obligations and the resolutions of the Security Council, Israel will have to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of its citizens. Israel calls upon the Palestinian Authority to take the steps necessary to bring about a cessation of all acts of terrorism and the resumption of a political process.

I submit this letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism that began in September 2000.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aaron **Jacob**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.